

The Marine Corps will award Brian the Silver Star Medal after receiving several personal accounts from the wounded Marines of Lima Company that he pulled from the battlefield at Hue City. Working alone and without regard for his own safety, Brian drove a four-wheel drive mule into the middle of the raging fire-fight, loaded the dead and wounded on the mule and sped them to safety. Within minutes, Brian was back, evacuating more wounded Marines to the aid station. Two days later, Brian again rode his mule into a raging fire-fight to rescue wounded Marines. Again, he was successful in delivering his precious cargo to an aid station. But not without a price. Brian was wounded during that battle, and the scars of that injury have never fully healed.

Because Brian was attached to a different Marine battalion, the men of Lima Company did not know their rescuer. If not for the determination of Sgt. Joe McLaughlin, whose witness to Brian's actions inspired a 30-year search for the Marine who pulled so many injured men from that Vietnamese battlefield, this Nation may never have had the privilege of honoring Brian's heroism in service to his country. Brian's sense of patriotism and duty have been passed along to his son, Craig Mayer, a second lieutenant in the U.S. Marine Corps.

Mr. Speaker, even words of praise from this esteemed Chamber cannot carry the weight of gratitude offered by Dennis Freed, one of the Marines whom Brian Mayer saved during the Battle for Hue City, who said: "Brian Mayer is a true American hero, whose sacrifices and heroism will always remain an inspiration to us all. He is truly deserving of, and long overdue for recognition of that heroism and sacrifice." Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Brian Mayer, who was willing to lay down his own life, ultimately sacrificing his own well-being on the field of battle, in an effort to save the lives of his fellow U.S. Marines. Brian Mayer is a true American hero.

SALUTING THE STUDENTS OF ARCADIA HIGH SCHOOL

HON. DAVID DREIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 1, 1997

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, on April 26–28, over 1,250 high school students from 50 States and the District of Columbia came to Washington, DC to compete in the national finals of "We the People . . . The Citizen and the Constitution." After the first round of competition, the top ten teams met on Capitol Hill on April 28 where they demonstrated their knowledge of the Constitution before constitutional scholars, journalists, and lawyers. The competition simulated a congressional hearing in which students' oral presentations were judged on the basis of their knowledge of constitutional principles and their ability to apply them to historical and contemporary issues. That night, the winners were revealed, and I am proud to announce that the team from Arcadia High School in Arcadia, CA, took second place in the national competition.

The young scholars worked diligently to reach the national finals and place second overall. The distinguished members of the

team that represented Arcadia High School were: Jon Baker, Joseph Cheung, Winne Ching, Anna Chung, Annie Chung, Steve Chung, Karen Dickinson, Scott Esposito, Nathan Flowers-Jacobs, Susan Fu, Jae Vyn Gan, David Han, Tracy Huang, Seoyoung Kim, Jonathon Lee, Michael Lee, Richard Lim, Winston Lin, Tsung-Lin Liu, Maggie Loo, Margaret Ng, Jina Noh, Margarita Ortiz, Harvard Pan, Nikka Rapkin, Christopher Tokeshi, Alexander Trifunac, Jack Wang, Jennie Wang, Wing Yung. I would also like to congratulate their teacher, Ron Morris, whose diligence and sacrifice greatly contributed to the success of the team.

The "We the People . . . The Citizen and the Constitution Program" is the most extensive education program in the country developed specifically to educate young people about the Constitution, the Bill of Rights and the principals and values that they represent. Clearly, the team from Arcadia High School showed their extensive knowledge on the significance of the Constitution and its place in history, and I salute them for their excellent showing at the national competition.

TRIBUTE TO JOSEPH GEMBUS

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 1, 1997

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Joseph Gembus of Rossford, OH who has taken from this life on Thursday, April 10, 1997 at the age of 85 years.

A man of integrity, humility, and true grit, Joe was a glassworker who gave of his energies to his profession, his family, and his community. Always a staunch and dignified defender of working people, he served as his union local's financial secretary for 23 years, retiring in 1977. Upon his retirement and in recognition of his tireless efforts on their behalf, his brothers and sisters in the union named the United Glassworkers Local 9 hall the Joseph F. Gembus Hall. Throughout his tenure with the union, he also served on the Toledo AFL-CIO Executive Board and as Vice-President of the State of Ohio AFL-CIO Executive Board. He served on the Wood County Democratic Executive Committee, MidAm Bank Advisory Board, and the City of Rossford Charter Commission.

Fiercely loyal to our Nation, Joe served in the U.S. Army during World War II, fighting in the China-Burma-India Theater. After his service, he joined the Rossford American Legion Post #533 and the Northwood VFW, where he was a life member. Never one to let his years slow him down, Joe was also a member of the Lady of Fatima Council of the Knights of Columbus, the Wood County Committee on Aging, and the Glassworkers Local 9 Cullet Club.

Joe now joins with his wife Mary, but leaves to this earth his sister, Angela Gembus, sisters-in-law Betty Torda and Kate Eckhart, and many nieces and nephews. They, and we, will miss him and cherish his memory and contributions in making our community a finer place in which to live.

WORKERS' COMPENSATION AND STRUCTURED SETTLEMENTS

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 1, 1997

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I join today with Mr. SHAW, Mr. RAMSTAD, and a broad bipartisan group of cosponsors from the Ways and Means Committee in introducing legislation to make structured settlements available to men and women who have suffered severe physical injuries in the workplace.

I have been a long-time supporter of structured settlements, going back to the original 1982 legislation that enacted section 130 of the Internal Revenue Code to encourage the use of structured settlements for physical injuries in tort cases. I believe that making the structured settlements available for physical injuries suffered in the workplace is fully consistent with the original rationale and policy that lead to the enactment of the Code section 130 structured settlement tax rules.

People who suffer severe and permanently disabling physical injuries in the workplace have the same need as badly injured tort victims for long-term financial security to cover the expenses of ongoing medical care and daily life.

I look forward to working with my colleagues on the Ways and Means Committee and in the House to pursue adoption of this legislation.

TRIBUTE TO DR. J.C. LAUL

HON. DAVID E. SKAGGS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 1, 1997

Mr. SKAGGS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to and to thank Dr. J.C. Laul, a former worker at the Department of Energy's Hanford facility, and a constituent of mine.

Dr. Laul is a nuclear chemist and a nuclear engineer, with a Ph.D. from Purdue University. He spent 15 years at Hanford working on nuclear waste and environmental cleanup problems, analyzing whether that site was suitable for permanent storage of high-level nuclear waste.

Dr. Laul is also a whistleblower, and a friend of the taxpayers, who put his career on the line when he blew the whistle on fraud and mismanagement by Batelle, Inc., a DOE contractor. Five days after disclosing that Batelle inappropriately and illegally used equipment paid for by the Government, Batelle fired Dr. Laul, saying he had improperly disposed of a hazardous waste—a violation DOE later said Batelle used as an excuse to lay him off and silence him.

After losing his job, Dr. Laul brought a False Claims Act suit against Batelle and won, resulting in Batelle reimbursing DOE \$330,000. Today I submit for the RECORD an article describing the case and reporting on Dr. Laul's vindication, and thank him for the important and honest work he did on behalf of this country. Dr. Laul lost his job because he had the nerve to stand up for what was right.